

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMCONSUL MUNICH
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 20699

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PEPR, RO, UR
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN DIPLOMAT ON SOVIET REACTION TO
HUA'S VISIT

REF: MOSCOW 20436

1. DURING CONVERSATION AUG. 29, ROMANIAN EMBOFF SAID
TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THE SOVIETS HAVE NOT OFFICIALLY
REGISTERED ANY COMPLAINT ABOUT BUCHAREST'S HANDLING
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OF HUA'S VISIT. IN HIS VIEW, SOVIET-ROMANIAN
RELATIONS CONTINUE TO BE NORMAL. THE ROMANIAN
EXPLAINED THAT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THE SOVIETS ARE
"DANCING IN THE STREETS" ABOUT THE VISIT. HE CON-
CEDED THE SOVIET PRESS REFLECTED SOME CONCERN, AND
THOUGHT THERE MIGHT BE FURTHER SUCH "NUANCES" IN
COMING WEEKS.

2. THE ROMANIAN DIPLOMAT SAID THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES ARE SENSITIVE TO THE FACT THAT SOME IN THE SOVIET UNION MIGHT BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE VISIT AND THE AGREEMENTS REACHED. HOWEVER, THERE WERE NO PLANS SO FAR AS HE KNEW FOR HIGH-LEVEL ROMANIAN-SOVIET CONTACTS IN THE NEXT WEEKS WHERE A THOROUGH READ-OUT COULD BE FURNISHED. THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR IN BUCHAREST COULD DISCUSS ANY CONCERNS WITH ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES SHOULD HE WISH TO. REGARDING THE "PROBABLE" OPENING OF CONSULATES IN CONSTANTA AND SHANGHAI, THE SOVIETS THEMSELVES HAVE A CONSULATE IN CONSTANTA SO THIS SHOULD NOT DISTURB THEM.

3. ROMANIAN OFFICIAL DISAGREED WITH A SUGGESTION THAT SOVIET PRESS MIGHT BE TAKING A HARDER LINE ON YUGOSLAVIA THAN ROMANIA. HE NOTED MOSCOW PRESS' VIRTUAL SILENCE, AND ABSENCE OF CRITICAL OVERTONE, ON HUA'S TRAVELS IN YUGOSLAVIA SINCE AUG. 25 TASS ITEM (REFTEL) AND ATTRIBUTED THIS TO A TANJUG "RESPONSE" TO THAT ITEM. HE THOUGHT TITO WAS IN FACT RECEIVING BETTER TREATMENT IN SOVIET PRESS THAN CEAUSESCU, SINCE LATTER'S STATEMENTS WERE NOT QUOTED IN THE SOVIET COVERAGE OF HUA'S VISIT WHEREAS TITO'S WERE. (COMMENT: ROMANIAN HAD FRESH IN CONFIDENTIAL

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MIND BRIEF TASS ITEM IN PRAVDA AUG. 29, BASED ON TANJUG, PROVIDING WITHOUT COMMENT SEVERAL PARAPHRASES AND QUOTES FROM TITO'S REPORTED PRESENTATION TO HUA ON BRIONI.) IN HIS VIEW, IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY TO JUDGE THE OVERALL SOVIET REACTION TO THE YUGOSLAV SEGMENT OF HUA'S VISIT.

4. COMMENT: ROMANIAN EMBOFF WAS MORE GUARDED IN HIS POST-MORTEM ON THE VISIT THAN DURING HIS PRE-VISIT COMMENTS TO US. HE QUALIFIED HIS REMARKS AT THE OUTSET BY SAYING HIS EMBASSY HAS LIKELY NOT RECEIVED A FINAL REPORT YET. THIS MAY BE A BACK-HANDED WAY OF INDICATING HE IS NOT SURE, OR WILLING TO SAY, WHAT EXCHANGES HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN BUCHAREST WITH THE SOVIETS ON THE VISIT AND ITS RESULTS. GARRISON

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